Service Date: August 29, 2012

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF NorthWestern Energy's)	REGULATORY DIVISION
2011-2012 Electricity Supply Tracker)	DOCKET NO. D2012.5.49

NOTICE OF COMMISSION ACTION

On August 10, 2012, NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) filed a *Motion and Brief in Support of Reconsideration of Order No. 7219b, or in the Alternative, Motion for More Time* (Motion for Reconsideration) with the Montana Public Service Commission (Commission). In its Motion for Reconsideration, NorthWestern recommended "that the deadline for filing an objection [to written discovery] and/or motion for a protective order be the same as the deadline for when responses are due." Mot. for Reconsideration p. 5 (Aug. 10, 2012); *see* Commn. Ord. 7219b ¶ 10 (July 27, 2012).

On August 17, 2012, staff waived the ten day rule in Section 38.2.4806(5) of the Administrative Rules of Montana.

On August 23, 2012, the Commission voted unanimously to grant NorthWestern's Motion for Reconsideration and to allow any party to object to written discovery or file a motion for a protective order within the time allotted for filing responses to written discovery. The Commission will expect a party that does not object or file a motion for protective order to respond to written discovery by the applicable deadline.

BY THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TRAVIS KAVULLA, Chairman GAIL GUTSCHE, Vice Chair W.A. (BILL) GALLAGHER, Commissioner BRAD MOLNAR, Commissioner JOHN VINCENT, Commissioner